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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY ___ DATE 8/7/81
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE ___
TS AUTH. ___ REASON(S) ___
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
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ACTION: Amembassy TRIPOLI PRIORITY

INFO: CINCUSAFE

STATE

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CINCUSAFE pass Ambassador Palmer

Ref: Tripoli 960

1. Department gravely concerned over rigid and harsh position re posted prices adopted by Libyan Price Committee in discussions with Esso and Occidental. We have had several indications from industry sources here of growing concern that Libyans under Maghrebi may press companies against the wall without regard either for industry economics, future of American investment in petroleum industry in Libya, or impact on overall US-LARG relations. In this context, Department commends prompt steps taken by Charge to convey concern over any precipitate action by LARG against any American company (Tripoli 970).

2. As Embassy aware, USG policy in past has been to

DRAFTED BY:	DRAFTING DATE	TEL. EXT.	APPROVED BY:
AF/N:JJBlake:nf	5/11/70	20455	AF/N - James J. Blake

CLEARANCES:

E/ORF/FSE - Mr. Clark

AF/N - Mr. Suddarth

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~~ACTION~~ Amembassy TRIPOLI - Page 2

stand aside from disputes between companies and Libyan Government, but to act as conveyor of information to both sides in interest of facilitating mutually satisfactory settlement before either side was locked into position on which compromise became impossible.

3. Accordingly, Department would appreciate your views as to whether this possibility exists in present situation, bearing USG-LARG in mind total relationship.

4. FYI. Department officers will be receiving full briefing on Libyan situation by Esso reps 1100 local May 12.

GP-4

ROGERS

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